

Message Text

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43

ORIGIN SCSE-00

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P 131932Z NOV 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL CURACAO

UNCLAS STATE 269205

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CPRS CO

SUBJECT: AMERICAN PROPERTY: US FLAG VESSEL "MIL MAR I"

- AKA "SAN GREGORIO"

REF: BOGOTA 6603 (NOTAL) AND PREVIOUS

1. THE FATE OF THE MIL-MAR I CONTINUES TO BE OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT AND IS THE SUBJECT OF CONSIDERABLE CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE. THE DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND ALL APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE TO MIL-MAR, INC. IN RECOVERING THEIR VESSEL. HOWEVER, IN CONSIDERING THE NEXT APPROPRIATE STEPS TO TAKE ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ARE NEEDED.

2. BOGOTA 6603, PREVIOUS CORRESPONDENCE AND MESSAGES INDICATE THAT MIL MAR INC. AND ITS COLOMBIAN ATTORNEY, DR. RAFAE RIVAS ARE AWARE THAT AN IMPORTANT REMAINING LEGAL STEP IS THE INSTITUTION OF A SUIT TO ANNUL THE JUDGEMENT OF FOURTH LABOR CIRCUIT COURT WHICH ALLOWED MIL-MAR I TO BE SOLD. HAS DR. RIVAS FILED SUCH A SUIT AND IS HE STILL ACTIVE ON THE CASE AS INDICATED IN A RECENT LETTER FROM CONGRESSMAN CASEY? WILL THE REPORTED SALE OF

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THE VESSEL BY PETER GROSSICH TO MANUEL ENRIQUE BARRETO-

DIAZ REQUIRE OTHER LEGAL ACTION IN ADDITION TO THE ANNULMENT SUIT?

WHAT IS THE PRESENT LOCATION OF THE MIL-MAR I, AND HAS IT ACQUIRED ANOTHER NEW NAME? IS IT PRESENTLY BEING UTILIZED AND, IF SO, IN WHAT CAPACITY AND BETWEEN WHAT POINTS? WHAT ARE THE RESULTS OF GOC'S INVESTIGATION OF THIS CASE?

3. FOR CURACAO: HAS MIL-MAR I, UNDER THIS OR ANY OTHER NAME, REAPPEARED AT CURACAO? IF SO, PLEASE GIVE DETAILS. RE CURACAO 132, WHAT GROUNDS DO NA AUTHORITIES NEED IN ORDER TO DETAIN VESSEL? RE CURACAO 148, WHAT ACTION REQUIRED ON PART OF VESSEL OWNERS TO ACQUIRE LEGAL STATUS IN NA SO BINDING LEGAL ACTION COULD BE TAKEN THERE IN EVENT MIL-MAR I RETURNS TO CURACAO?

4. DEPARTMENT REALIZES COMPLICATED NATURE OF THIS CASE AND POSTS ASSISTANCE IN RESOLVING PROBLEM IS APPRECIATED. KISSINGER

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